1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

Annex "A," Subparagraph 1c,

Sociological Background

SIZE AND GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION

162 On 1 January 1939, an unofficial estimate credited Estonia with 1,333,940 inhabitants. According to the last official Estonian census, 1 March 1934, the count was 1,126,413, of which number 47 per cent were male, 53 per cent female; 33 per cent were ranked urban and 67 per cent rural.

The population of the major Estonian cities on July 1, 1939 was as follows:

Tallinn	140,665
Tartu	58,307
Narva	26,000
Pärnu	22,942

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Nõmme..... 22,725

Viljandi..... 12,725

Valga..... 10,074

Rakvere..... 10,139

Võru..... 6,463

Haapsalu..... 5,964

Kuressaare..... 5,346

The metropolitan area of Tallinn, including Nõmme and Pirita, had almost 166,000 inhabitants.

In 1934 the distribution of population according to counties was thus:

Harjumaa..... 243,122

Järvama..... 58,954

Läänemaa..... 75,039

Pärnumaa..... 94,653

Saaremaa..... 55,851

Setumaa..... 64,712

/62 Tartumaa.....181, 296

Valgamaa..... 39, 278

Viljandimaa..... 74, 993

Virumaa.....146, 318

Võrumaa..... 83, 145

161 The mean density of the population of the Republic of Estonia was 25. 3 persons per square kilometer. The average density in rural areas was 15. 3 persons per square kilometer, being highest in Setumaa (36. 1) and lowest in Pärnumaa (12. 1).

369 166 After the liberation from slavery of the Estonian peasants in the 1860's,[1] Estonian towns started to grow as a result of the migration of landless people into the towns. This movement was intensified toward the end of the century when the growth of industries in larger cities

1 [Src cat. 116, pp. 23-26--Analyst]

1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

In spite of all this urbanization,[1] Estonia was during its independence still an agricultural country, with 59 per cent of its population occupied in agriculture, forestry and fishery. This picture has not changed much noticeably during the ten years of Soviet occupation.

According to the 1934 census, the Estonian population, considered by age groupings, showed the following percentages:

AGE (years)	MALE (per cent)	FEMALE (per cent)	AVERAGE PERCENTAGE
0-9	16.8	14.5	15.6
10-19	15.4	13.4	14.4
20-29	19.1	16.8	17.9
30-39	15.2	15.5	15.3
40-49	12.0	13.2	12.6
50-59	10.0	11.2	10.6
60-69	7.1	8.8	8.0
70-79	3.6	5.3	4.5

1 [See cat. 116, pp. 77-78.-:79- Analyst]

162 80-89	0.8	1.2	1.0
90-99	0.0	0.1	0.1

163 The Estonian birth rate has never been high.
165 The 1930-34 average was 16.8 per mille. At the same time, the death rate averaged 14.9 per mille, leaving a natural increase of 1.9 per mille. This median death rate was higher than the average among other people with the same birth rate. In earlier years (in the last decade of the nineteenth century, for example) the birth rate of the Estonians has been considerably higher--
[563] 29.9 per mille. The birth rate among the Russian minority was 7 to 8 per cent higher than that for the Estonian population, but the Estonian German and Jewish populations had higher death rates than birth rates.

165 Before Estonian independence the infant

165 mortality rate was extremely high, but during the years of independence it dropped, as a result of the better medical care available for infants and mothers. The death rate dropped also in the age group of 10-19, but it still remained high in the age group of 1-9.

162 563 The overwhelming majority of the population of Estonia in 1934 were Estonian--88.2 per cent, or almost one million people. Until World War II the minorities in Estonia ranked as follows:

Russians	8.2 per cent
Germans	1.5 per cent
Swedes	0.7 per cent
Latvians	0.5 per cent
Others (Jews, etc.)	0.9 per cent

From prehistoric times Estonians have had

1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

Annex "A," Subparagraph 1e,

Sociological Background

LANGUAGES

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Estonia is a country of polyglots. A great percentage of people speak three local languages and the educated class usually speaks more. Estonian, German and Russian are the major languages spoken in Estonia. According to the census of 1934 Estonian was spoken as the native tongue by 88.2 per cent of the inhabitants of Estonia. At the same time Russian was the native language of 8.2 per cent of the inhabitants --Russians living in the southeastern part of Setumaa and on the banks of the Narva River. Two towns, Petseri and Narva, had also a considerable number of Russians. German is spoken as the native tongue by 1.5 per cent of the population of Estonia--by the Baltic Germans,

1:Indiana U. S-4,5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

162 85 per cent of whom left Estonia in the fall of
191 1939 and settled in Germany.

191 Since German has always been taught in Es-
871 tonian schools it is undoubtedly the best known foreign language in this country. This situation has probably not been too much changed even now, after ten years of Soviet occupation. To-
[177] gether with knowledge of the language, German cultural influence has also been incomparably greater than Russian influence. During the independence of Estonia, Russian was not taught in Estonian schools except in the commercial schools and a few others, so that the generation which grew up during this period does not speak Russian. When the Soviet occupation began Russian was required in every type of school. By this time the younger generation certainly has mastered Russian as well as their

000 592 their aged parents. It was a fairly common practice on Estonian farms for the old folk to build a house for themselves in the vicinity of the farm's main buildings and to leave the latter to the newly married son or daughter. Among the joint families in the cities one could usually find the widow or widower living with children and grandchildren, but when both grandparents were living, they usually had their own household. A widow more often resided with her married daughter than her married son. The trend in modern times has definitely been toward [162] the single family. Since the beginning of World War I, a decline in the size of the family has been taking place, the usual number of children 462 being two or three. Mothers in middle-class [565] families often worked as teachers, clerks or nurses, using hired help at home. There were

200 abolished.

795] There was no established church in independ-
798 ent Estonia. Full freedom of worship and conscience was guaranteed in the Constitution of the Republic of Estonia. All religious services were free to be held so long as they did not conflict with public order and morale.

162 According to the census of 1922, 78.3 per cent
795 of the population of Estonia was Lutheran, 19 per cent Greek Catholic, 0.5 per cent Baptist, 0.2 per cent Roman Catholic, 1 per cent belonged to other Christian churches (Methodist, Adventist, etc.) and 0.4 per cent was Jewish. To the Lutheran Church in Estonia belonged Estonians, Germans, and Swedes, whereas the membership of the Greek Orthodox Church was made up mainly of Russians and Estonians. The distribution of Lutherans by districts was almost

1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

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795 even except in Setumaa, Saaremaa and Pärnumaa. The Greek Orthodox Church in these districts had the following figures: in Setumaa 90. 9 per cent; in Saaremaa 39. 7 per cent; and in Pärnumaa 31. 5 per cent.

795 Before the independence of Estonia the Lutheran Church was administered according to the Statute of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia, sanctioned in 1832 by Czar Nicholas I, and based on the Swedish Church Statute introduced in 1692 and in Livonia in 1694. From the [565] point of view of organization, the Lutheran Church in preindependence times was an established Church because the large landowners and state officials had the decisive power. The Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church accepted its constitution in 1919 at the second Church Congress at Tallinn. According to this

464 Revolution Estonian colonies were more prosperous than the surrounding Russians.

162 642 178 Table 1 shows the division of Estonia's population into occupational groups.

According to Table 1, industrialization was increasing in independent Estonia. By 1939, 55 per cent of the population was occupied in agriculture and 24 per cent in industry. Noticeably decreasing was the number of people who had no established occupation (domestic help, seasonal workers, etc.)

464 162 The percentage of active people who were earning a livelihood for themselves and their families in 1934 was 71 per cent. Workers and employees made up only 33.7 per cent of this figure, including family members who worked without wages. In the United States the corresponding persentage was 74.2. The largest

1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

444 group among the active population was the self-
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employed group, those who worked in their own independent enterprises with members of their families or alone, such as small-holders and
465 craftsmen of various types. The total income of all working groups was in 1939 about 182.2 million Estonian kroons. Of this sum the various occupational groups received the following shares:

Industry	41.7
State and local governmental employees	25.7
Agriculture	13.1
Trade, including banking and insurance	11.6
Professional groups	4.1
Transportation	2.5

433 Estonia's economy rests on agriculture and industry. In 1939 the net agricultural output

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I:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

Table 1. Estonia's Population by Occupation

Occupations	1922				1934	
	Men	Women	Total	Per cent	Total	Per cent
Agriculture	305,381	347,132	652,513	59.0	662,561	58.8
Industry	85,403	88,703	174,106	15.7	195,949	17.4
Trade	21,549	24,777	46,326	4.2	55,569	4.9
Transportation and communication	20,075	16,948	37,023	3.3	38,193	3.4
Social work, including teachers	35,061	26,851	61,912	5.6	73,642	6.5
Unsettled occupations	37,882	58,201	96,183	8.7	44,873	4.0
Others	14,888	24,108	38,996	3.5	55,626	5.0
Total	520,239	586,820	1107,059	100.0	1126,413	100.0

1;Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

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Table 2. Distribution of Population by Occupational Status in 1934

Occupational Group	Employers with hired help	Self-employed		Workers and Tenants	Employees	Professional Groups and Occupation Unknown
		members of family	alone			
Agriculture	103,096	419,126	18,524	116,496	4,007	1,311
Industry	11,887	6,573	43,733	121,895	11,607	254
Trade	5,265	7,137	14,733	16,257	12,071	106
Transportation and Communication	442	444	5,146	22,482	9,581	98
Social work	----	----	----	15,340	35,448	22,854
Domestic help	----	----	----	18,848	98	----
Others	----	----	----	----	----	55,626
Occupation unknown	121	175	584	17,420	890	6,737
Total	120,811	433,455	82,720	328,739	73,702	86,986

362 727 have reported, there has been very little building activity during the Second Soviet Occupation, and at the present time there is a serious housing crisis in Estonian cities.

565 162 Class distinctions were not sharp in independent Estonia; there were neither great industrial magnates nor a pauperized proletariat, although previously there had been great landowners and landless tenants in rural Estonia. In 1934, only 4.9 per cent of the population lived on capital, while the rest made a living at various types of work; 36 per cent were wage-earners, while 64 per cent were self-employed and independent.

[674] [735] Estonia, a land of few big cities and therefore of few slums, had a low rate of crime, juvenile delinquency, begging and vagabondage.

466 From the beginning of independence, Estonian social policy had a sound foundation; its aims

3: Indiana U. S-4, 5 1955 RG4 Estonia RG4
Vepses

Annex "A," Subparagraph 1c,

Sociological Background

SIZE AND GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION

101 [161] Area inhabited by the Vepsians. According to the latest data (Bol'shaia Sovetskaia Entsiklopediia) the number of Vepsians is considered to be from 30,000-35,000. They live in the following administrative units of the Soviet Union: 1) Sheltozero rayon in Karelo-Finnish SSR; 2) Vinnits, Ojat' and Kapsha rayons in the Leningrad oblast; and 3) Oshta, Shola and Efimovskii rayons in Vologda oblast.

162 There are no data available on the number of Vepsians in each of these groups. The data of the 1926 census on the Vepsians are classified according to okrugs (except for the Karelo-Finnish SSR). The number of Vepsians at that time was as follows:

1. In Sheltozero rayon in Karelo-Finnish SSR..... 8,663

2. In Lodeinopolye okrug (the Vinnits, Oshta and Ojat' rayons)..... 16,484

3. In Cherepovets okrug (the Efimovskii and Shola rayons)... 5,357

162 4. In Leningrad okrug (the Kapsha rayon) 2,202

Total 32,706

In the literature it is customary to divide the Vepsians into three groups on the basis of linguistic and geographical differences. The size of these groups in the 1930's was estimated as follows:

1. The North or Onega Vepsians in Sheltozero rayon..... ca. 10,000

2. The Middle Vepsians--south of the Svir River as far as the Korvoil village..... ca. 14,000

3. The South Vepsians--south of the Korvoil village..... ca. 10,000

Total ca. 34,000

The fourth group is formed by the so-called Isaijeva Vepsians who lived in Isaijevo volost to the east of the White Lake; their number in 1873 was 295. They were probably completely russified at the beginning of this century.

In this report this last division -- North, Middle, South and Isaijeva Vepsians--will be used.

166 369 Changes in the composition of the population. The Vepsians are a typical rural population, and until recently they almost never lived in cities. Since 1930, however, considerable changes have taken place in their distribution. The collectivization of the

4: Indiana U. S-4, 5 1955 RG4 Estonia RG4
Livonians

Annex "A," Subparagraph 1a,
Sociological Background

GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE SOCIETY

[142] 565 578 Although the number of Livonians is very small (in 1920 ca. 1500-2000, in 1949 ca. 1000), they are divided into several groups both on the basis of their economic situation and their attitude toward Livonian nationalism. Economically the Livonians form three district classes: a) the farmers, the merchants and the speculators; b) the small farmers; and c) the tenants. A certain antagonism exists between these classes, as evidenced in the fact that the so-called "bourgeois" have not been admitted into the co-operatives. These classes had, before the occupation by the Soviet Union in 1940, different political ideals also: the richer people were for the rightist conservative parties, while the poorer elements gave their support to the Social Democrats.

186 The Livonians are not unified either in their attitude toward Livonian nationalism. Two basic groups can be distinguished among them: the nationally conscious ones who strive for the preservation of Livonianism, and those who prefer to succumb to Latvianization. Between these two extremes are, of course, several transitional groupings with various degrees of interest in the problem.

The strong national awakening which took

Annex "A," Subparagraph 1c,
Sociological Background

SIZE AND GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION

162 131 Area inhabited by the Livonians. The number of Livonians in 1949 was about 1000, and they lived in the northernmost end of the Kurland Peninsula, in Dondangen rayon of the Latvian SSR. In the 1930's the Livonians lived in the following twelve villages: Luuzh, Piza (Latvian, Pissen), Iira (Latvian, Lielirbe), Uushkila (Latvian, Jaunciems), Siikrõg (Latvian, Sihkraggen), Ire (Latvian, Mazirbe), Koshtrõg (Latvian, Koshtraggen), Pitrõg (Latvian, Pihtraggen), Vaid (Latvian, Waiden), Säänag (Latvian, Saunaggen), Kuolka (Latvian, Kolken), and Mustnumm (Latvian, Mellesille). In the last-mentioned village only a very few 361 Livonians were to be found. All the Livonian villages are about a hundred steps from the coastline, behind the first sand hills. The houses of the villages are clustered together, except Säänag and Vaid which consist of individual farms scattered over the area of a few versts. The Latvian settlements are a couple of versts from the coast, separated from the Livonian villages by small valleys with sand banks.

167 Migration. In the times of serfdom in the last century the Livonians used to escape from the barons' whip to Saaremaa (in Estonia), and

4: Indiana U. S-4, 5 1955 RG4 Estonia RG4
Livonians

162 Population trends. The area of the Livonians was in former times much larger than now, comprising parts of Livland, which has received its name from them, and extensive areas in Kurland. In Livland the Livonians in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries inhabited a rather wide coastal zone, which, beginning from the mouth of the Salis River, extended as far as to the west of the mouth of the Dvina River. The Livonians in Livland were Latvianized in the course of the following centuries. According to a description of 1631, Livonian was spoken there only in a few villages. In 1846 the academician Sjögren, a Finnish scholar, found only 22 Livonians in the region of the Salis River. By 1858 the number of the Livonians had decreased to 8, according to the academician Wiedmann, the last of whom died in 1868. In Kurland the Livonians' area in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries extended from the northernmost point of the Kurland Peninsula, Domesnäs Cape, both southward and westward along the seacoast, farther than nowadays; in the west it reached at least the present city of Windau (Latvian, Ventspils). Most probably the Livonians also lived among the Latvians in the whole of western Kurland as far as 55° North Latitude.

161 The number of Livonians was recorded in the official Russian statistics in 1865 as 2315. In 1888 their number had increased to 2873. From later times there are no exact data available. Some scholars assume that at the